

More Chinese Puzzles

Some months ago, as we noted at the time, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hired a San Francisco outfit, Conlon Associates, Ltd., to prepare a report on U.S. foreign policy in Asia. The report is now in. Among its recommendations: Communist China should be recognized, admitted to the UN, seated on the Security Council; Nationalist troops and "civilians willing to go" should be withdrawn from Quemoy and Matsu.

Since our political comment on these proposals is self-evident, we here give passing attention to the tantalizing question: Who and what is Conlon Associates?

a) The Associates profess to act as Public Relations and Business Consultants on Asian matters;

b) The head Associate is Richard P. Conlon;

c) Mr. Conlon came to his present post from the Committee for Free Asia, now the Asia Institute—an analogue of the Free Europe Committee, generally understood to be a front for the Central Intelligence Agency;

d) Mr. Conlon came to Free Asia, in 1952, from Washington, where as a protégé of John Paton Davies he was nominally connected with the State Department's Far Eastern Division, but generally understood to be in fact working for CIA, with which Davies was then a key State Department liaison officer. It was Mr. Davies who in that

period proposed setting up a covert CIA auxiliary to include Edgar Snow, Agnes Smedley and other publicists for the Chinese Communists.

Does this genealogy indicate that there is still a living link between CIA and Conlon Associates? And are the Conlon proposals current CIA policy? Such questions, of wide public interest, should certainly engage the attention of a congressional committee. And the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee comes naturally to mind; to investigate whether the CIA is currently engaged in activities counter to the declared foreign policy of the United States.

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WOL (Washington) and the
RMS Network

NOVEMBER 12, 1969

(EXCERPT)

Fulton Lewis Jr. at 7:00 P.M. over WOL (Washington) and the
RMS Network;

"There are likely to be some fireworks after Congress convenes about the 155 page report which the Senate Finance--Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman, William Fulbright, had made at a cost of \$25,000, by an outfit called the Conlon Associates Limited of San Francisco, recommending that Red China be accepted into the United Nations and given the place that now is held on the Security Council by Nationalist China, recommending also that the Nationalists surrender Quemoy and Matsu Islands.

"It appears that Richard L Conlon (SIC), the head of this outfit, is a former employee of the State Department, also a former, if not present, sub rosa employee of the Central Intelligence Agency.

"It's pretty well established that at one time he was on the CIA payroll and the record indicates that he was a party to a scheme which cost the United States government an estimated \$500,000 which entailed trying to corner the market on newsprint in the Far East on the theory that by such means it would be possible to prevent the Communists from getting any paper on which to print their newspapers and propaganda material. There's growing demand to find out how Conlon Associates ever got a job of this kind, whether Conlon is still an agent of the CIA, thus whether the CIA is attempting to get its propaganda into the thinking of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee."